The ATLAS Forward Proton Programme

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Introduction

- **Motivation**: detect intact protons from hard interaction scattered at very small angles (into the LHC beam pipe).
- Detector located close to the beam (Movable Beam Pipe).
- Protons must leave beam envelope.



- Proton position measurement (3-D Pixel detectors).
- Precise time of flight measurement (QUARTIC timing detector).

AFP Acceptance



 $200 GeV < M_X < 2000 GeV$



Pile-up

Minimum bias pile-up protons may fake hard diffractive signature.



AFP detectors will give a possibility to extend ATLAS Physics Programme by studies of:

- QCD studies:
 - hard single diffraction (eg. jets, W/Z),
 - hard central diffraction (eg. DPE jets, DPE W/Z),
 - central exclusive production (eg., jets, $\gamma\gamma$),
- exploratory physics:
 - anomalous quartic gauge couplings (γ , W, Z):
 - effective approach for testing BSM,
 - extra dimensions, higgsless models,
 - SUSY,
 - magnetic monopoles.

Exclusive Jet Production

Exclusive Jet Production

Signature: two jets in central region + two intact protons + gap in rapidity between jet and proton (no remnants).



Exclusive Production

- Theoretical description KMR model.
- No Pomeron remnants.
- Measurement constrain theoretical models.
- Limits on exclusive Higgs production.

Very challenging measurement – all potential that AFP offers have to be used.

Background



Initial Cross-Section



Cuts: Rapidity Difference and Mass Fraction



Difference, $y_{jj} - y_X$, of the rapidity of the jet system (y_{jj}) and the rapidity of the proton system $y_X = 0.5 \cdot \ln\left(\frac{\xi_1}{\xi_2}\right)$



Ratio of the jet system mass to the missing mass $M_X = \sqrt{s \cdot \xi_1 \cdot \xi_2}$

Discriminating Power

Additional selection:

- At least one proton tagged in each AFP station.
- Number of tracks outside the jet system < 4.
- Angle between two leading jets 2.9 $<\Delta\phi<$ 3.3.
- Missing mass $M_x < 550 \text{ GeV}/\text{c}^2$.
- The distance between hard vertex reconstructed by ATLAS and from the AFP time measurement $|\Delta z| < 3.5$ mm;



Number of Events ($< \mu >=$ 23)



Improvement of uncertainties coming from the Tevatron CDF measurements by about one order of magnitude!

Anomalous Couplings

Anomalous Couplings

Motivation: provide stringent test of the electroweak symmetry breaking mechanism.



Additional contribution from BSM Largangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{BSM}} = - \frac{e^2}{8} \frac{a_0^W}{\Lambda^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} W^{+\alpha} W_{\alpha}^{-} - \frac{e^2}{16} \frac{a_C^W}{\Lambda^2} F_{\mu\alpha} F^{\mu\beta} (W^{+\alpha} W_{\beta}^{-} + W^{-\alpha} W_{\beta}^{+}) - \frac{e^2}{16 \cos^2 \theta_W} \frac{a_0^Z}{\Lambda^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} Z^{\alpha} Z_{\alpha} - \frac{e^2}{16 \cos^2 \theta_W} \frac{a_C^Z}{\Lambda^2} F_{\mu\alpha} F^{\mu\beta} Z^{\alpha} Z_{\beta}$$

E. Chapon, O. Kepka, C. Royon, Phys. Rev. D81 (2010) 074003

Signal and Backgrounds

Signal: QED WW SM, with a QGC.

W's decays leptonically (but semi-hadronic decays are also promising).

Backgrounds:

- non-diffractive (+ pile-up):
 - WW,
 - WZ,
 - ZZ,
 - Drell-Yan,
 - W/Z + jet,
 - ttbar,
 - single top.

Generators: FPMC, HERWIG++, PYTHIA.

- diffractive:
 - QED //,
 - SD WW,
 - DPE WW,
 - DPE //,

Selection Cuts

- AFP acceptance $0.014 < \xi < 0.2$,
- leading lepton $p_T > 300$ GeV, sub-leading lepton $p_T > 20$ GeV,
- $M_{II} > 300 \text{ GeV}$,
- number of tracks from hard vertex < 3,
- $\Delta \phi_{II} < 3.1$ rad,
- $M_X > 800 \text{ GeV}.$



- the measurement of couplings at the highest luminosities is possible,
- \bullet precision of $\sim 10^{-6}~\text{GeV}^{-2}$ where the BSM effect are expected:

	a_0^W/Λ^2 Sensitivity	
	5σ	95% C.L.
$\mathcal{L} = 40 \ fb^{-1}, \mu = 23$	$5.5 \ 10^{-6}$	$2.4 \ 10^{-6}$
$\mathcal{L} = 300 \ fb^{-1}, \mu = 46$	3.2 10 ⁻⁶	$1.3 \ 10^{-6}$

Additional topics

Additional topics

- Main idea: production of objects in which background can be extremely reduced by kinematical constraints coming from AFP proton measurements (high mass),
- Many new anomalous couplings to be studied if Higgs boson exists new dimension 8 operators appearing leading to anomalous production of WW, ZZ, $\gamma\gamma$,
- Production of magnetic monopoles:



- SUSY sparticle production: precise mass measurement,
- Any production of new objects (with mass up to 2 TeV) via photon or gluon exchanges: KK resonances, black holes, *etc.*
- Other topics (special runs): jet-gap-jet in diffraction (tests of BFKL dynamics) see talk by Christophe Royon, diffraction mechanism, Pomeron structure.

W Asymmetries

Test different diffraction mechanisms. Probe Pomeron structure.



Double Pomeron Exchange

Quarks from Pomeron Charge and flavour symmetry: u=d=s=ubar=dbar=sbar

$$A = \frac{N_+ - N_-}{N_+ + N_-}$$

DPE: A = 0SCI: A = 0.14

K. GolecBiernat, C. Royon, L. Schoeffel, R. Staszewski, Phys. Rev. **D84** (2011) 114006



Quarks from protons Diffractive signature due to colour

rearrangements



Summary

- Quartic anomalous couplings measurement at µ = 46 and a total luminosity of 300 fb⁻¹ is possible. The full AFP simulation in presence of pile-up confirms the gain in sensitivity between one and two orders of magnitude with respect to the standard (non-AFP) ATLAS methods. The use of the AFP allows reaching the values expected in Higgs-less or extra-dimension models.
- The production of exclusive dijet for $\mu = 23$ and a total luminosity of 40 fb⁻¹ the measurement is possible and interesting due to the huge model uncertainties at present level of the theory understanding.
- For all physics cases, AFP capabilities in terms of proton tagging and timing resolution are key and unique features unprecedented sensitivity to quartic anomalous coupling or novel QCD measurements.